

DX LISTENING DIGEST 3-004, January 7, 2003
edited by Glenn Hauser, ghauser@hotmail.com

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NOTE: If you are a regular reader of DXLD, and a source of DX news but have not been sending it directly to us, please consider yourself obligated to do so. Thanks, Glenn

WORLD OF RADIO 1163:

WRN ONDEMAND: <http://www.wrn.org/ondemand/worldofradio.html>
[Low] (Download) <http://www.k4cc.net/wor1163.ram>
 (Stream) <http://www.k4cc.net/wor1163.ram>
[High] (Download) <http://www.k4cc.net/wor1163h.ram>
 (Stream) <http://www.k4cc.net/wor1163h.ram>
(Summary) <http://www.worldofradio.com/wor1163.html>

RFPI: Wed 0100, 0700, 1300 7445 and/or 15039

WJIE: M-F 1300, daily 0400 -- maybe; Sun 0630, Mon 0700, Tue 0630 7490

WWCR: Wed 1030 9475

WORLD OF RADIO 1164 first airings:

Wed 2300 on WBCQ 7415, 17495-CUSB

Thu 2130 on WWCR 9475

Fri 1930 on RFPI 15039

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL

Enclosed is a donation in support of your fine efforts and the online DXLD. It adds so much to my enjoyment of the hobby and broadcasting in general (Brock Whaley, GA, Jan 1) Thank you!

BE IN STYLE (more)

A few more items of DXLD style, not covered in the previous piece, which I reîmphasize is a only wish-list by your editor, and entirely optional. I do not throw out material which doesn't match. But a little help from you will make what I do more efficient, and make your material more readable in the end, not only here but wherever else you may send it!

These guidelines will be available (and added to as needed) at
<http://www.worldofradio.com/dxstyle.html>

URLs: some programs can handle this and some not, so to be safe, do not put any punxuation, such as commas, periods, parentheses, next to URLs. Always put in the http:// at the start to ensure it will convert to a hotlink. It may look strange if there is no period when an URL comes at the end of a sentence, but it's worth it. Unless an item ends with a parenthetical remark before the parenthetical credit line, I think it looks better to omit the final period (like this)

Country names: I realize that DXLD has a different way of doing this than many other publications, but following our system would be appreciated, e.g. KOREA NORTH, not NORTH KOREA nor PDR KOREA; CONGO DR, not DR CONGO [and don't confuse with the other plain old CONGO]; you can see how we do it, and how [non] goes after the country if it is a broadcast to rather than from a country, a clandestine, relayed elsewhere, etc. Country name headers are always in English and without accents upon them, in order not to confuse searching.

Not only do we not use ITU country abbrs. in headings, we detest them in the body, and in the credit line --- another thing to spell out unless really necessary in a table with limited spaces. In credit line, when giving your state, province or country, do not connect to your name with a hyphen, but comma, space. US and Canadian postal abbreviations are preferred; spell out other countries.

If you have a program detail or title that is non-generic, specify the day of the week along with the date.

Do not use // to indicate a parallel frequency. Some programs convert this symbol, for unknown reasons, to ``file''. Try the backslashes \\ instead and leave a space before and after. Tabs are to be avoided, since they often display incorrectly. If you have something in columns, the proper number of individual spaces should be between them.

Tho gh once constructed a 2-letter language abbr. system, including EG for English, we prefer to spell out these words here. Words, abbreviated or not, such as announcement, announcer, mention, man,

woman can often be omitted with no real loss of useful info. You'll notice in this very piece we avoid cluttering with quotation marks, but they should be used where specifying a direct quotation is important.

Spaces: one space, not two, please, after a period before the next sentence starts. Do not indent paragraphs, but leave a line between them. BTW, DXLD has 70-space lines, exceeded only by long URLs, but as it's prepared originally in MS Word, we can adjust this. However, if your text has hard returns at much less or more than 70, it takes a lot of our time to reformat.

Headline, if the item has one, should be in all-caps. It's amazing that most professional news sources do not do this, but with text-only DXLD, lacking bold, italic, underlining, we need this way to set them off.

Another symbol to avoid using is @ when you really want to say the word at, as in before a time. Why bother to shift for one symbol when you can type two letters without shifting??? If you have a sequence of program items heard at specific times, they are easier to follow if you always give each time first, and then what was heard at that time. Then you won't even need to say at.

If you are forwarding something and can disable the string of arrows at the left, please do so. We just have to remove them. These symbols should also be avoided as they convert to other symbols without warning. Don't use them for emphasis, or to point something out. We sometimes replace them with ||. And arrows are not needed around URLs.

You will certainly notice that these style standards are not always met. I let some things pass to save time, and make my own mistakes: even a comma splice in last issue, fixed later by removing a verb. Not only English, but some Spanish and German writers do this a lot, making me wonder if this be acceptable in those languages. Seems to me the same logic against it as in English should apply. Thanks (Glenn)

** AFGHANISTAN. RADIO STATION BEGINS BROADCAST IN AFGHAN CAPITAL

07 January 2003

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/southasia/view/29020/1/.html>

A radio station has been set up in the Afghan capital of Kabul, where only military radios and those used by foreign media once ruled. It has been more than a year since the Taliban regime in Afghanistan was ousted.

In Kabul, the voice of Afghanistan's first free journalist was heard

in a programme called 'Good Morning Afghanistan'. In just a few months, the radio station has become the most listened to, as more than 20 journalists are involved in daily reporting.

The reporters from 'Good Morning Afghanistan' have seen it all.

Their first studio was built around a kitchen table, and the technical material was installed in less than a week by experts who were funded as part of a European Union programme. It is to underline the humanist aspect that the European Union has created a free radio for the Afghan people.

But what were the women doing before September 11? At the time, hidden under their burkas, they would never have imagined that one day, they would be doing radio reports and speaking openly.

Sharifa Zormaty-Ward, Journalist of 'Good Morning Afghanistan', said: "You've already forgotten the period of the Taliban. To be seen in a car with foreigners and to be filmed by them, they would have killed us, and they would have cut off your nose and ears." 'Good Morning Afghanistan' is broadcast every morning, between 6 am 7 am.

On August 26, due to public demand, the director of the station came up with a sister program 'Good Evening Afghanistan' from 6 pm to 7.30 pm.

Barry Salaam said: "It's a new radio station in Afghanistan. There is good information and fresh news every day and evening. Good morning and good evening." (via Mike Terry, Jan 7, DXLD)

I'm not sure the preceding story is anything new; does it refer to the service occasionally sent back on SW? The following about R. Azadi apparently does not refer to the US' R. Free Afghanistan service of the same name, nor to the defunct service to Iran of the same name... (gh, DXLD)

INDEPENDENT AFGHAN RADIO STATION TO EXTEND COVERAGE TO WHOLE COUNTRY
Hoover's, January 6, 2003
From <http://www.afgha.com/?af=article&sid=28776>

Radio Azadi [Liberty] has lately started its broadcasts on different frequencies. It has won the favour of the audience in such a short time with its interesting broadcasts. In an interview we asked Sidiqollah Sahel, the editor of Radio Azadi, about the programmes of that radio and his comments are as follows:

Radio Azadi is financed by ISAF [International Security Assistance Force]. It was inaugurated in a ceremony by Sayd Makhdum Rahim,

information and culture minister, and Akin Zorlu, the general commander of international peacekeeper forces, on 4 August 2002. As we can see from its name, this radio has once again liberated Afghans from restrictions. Its programmes, which are produced according to people's wishes, are broadcast round the clock.

With reference to the programmes of Radio Azadi, respected Sahel said: Our programmes include news, reportages, commentaries, Greetings [a programme], and different eastern and western music according to the taste of all citizens. Programmes are prepared and produced with the coordination of German and Afghan journalists. Elaborating the assistance of Germany in setting up that radio, Mr Sahel said: As it is clear to everyone, our friendly country Germany of has always wanted to assist Afghan people and their relations with us go far back in history. They want to assist us in social, economic, cultural and other aspects and their humanitarian assistance has been visible in different spheres.

Esteemed Sidiqollah Sahel continued: The staff of Radio Azadi consist of skilled and experienced journalists, presenters and authors, who have an ambition to create entertaining, informational, scientific, economic, etc., programmes to meet the demands of the people. Radio Azadi is an independent radio, free of any sort of political and governmental interference. All its broadcasts, which are free of any personal influence, are realistic and its reports reflect the reality of the shattered Afghan society. Regarding their future plans about the enhancement of their countrywide programmes, he said:

We are expecting to install some new antennas and a repeater station to expand the broadcasts of Radio Azadi and they will cover the whole country. Our broadcasts only cover Kabul city at the moment and our audience can only receive our programmes in Kabul on frequencies of 88.5 MHz FM.

About their future plans for improving the quality of the programmes of Radio Azadi, esteemed Sahel said: According to the observations and the incoming cards and letters from our audiences we can say that the number of our audience has multiplied. It reveals that our programmes are interesting for our audience. We welcome the constructive suggestions, ideas, and criticism, which will help enhance the programmes of Radio Azadi and we will utilize them to improve our broadcasts. Source: Anis, Kabul, in Dari 4 Jan 03 (via Mike Terry, DXLD)

** AFGHANISTAN. "AFGHAN RADIO STATION CALLS FOR JIHAD"

A report by the Pakistan-based News Network International (NNI) says that "anti American elements" in the Pakita province of eastern

Afghanistan have set up a radio station and are calling for a Holy War (Jihad) against America and the provisional government of Hamid Karzai. According to a source who asked to remain anonymous, US-led allied troops have been trying to locate the station and apprehend those responsible, but have failed so far. The troops are said to have requested "sophisticated intelligence equipment" to help find the station. One of its announcements says "Hamid Karzai is just a puppet in the hands of Americans and the governance in Afghanistan is non-Islamic. Therefore Jihad is the obligation of all Muslims, especially those living in Afghanistan. Get up and organize yourself in the name of Allah to protect your country from the hands of non-Muslims."

(© Radio Netherlands Media Network 6 January 2003 via DXLD) WTKF???

** ARGENTINA. RHC has not been on 11705-USB for a couple of months, English to NAm 0100-, so a great chance to hear RAE English weekdays 0200-0300 on 11710 (Bob Thomas, CT, Jan 2, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** AUSTRALIA. Hello Glenn, HCJB Kununurra logged in Sweden. I logged HCJB Kununurra on 11755 on the 5th of January at 0955-1025 despite Radio Finland with 500 kW about 300 km away. It was made at a DX-camp in Delsbo, Central Sweden, about 300 km north of my town of Västerås. Antenna used: beverage 500 m, 285 deg. 73 de (Lennart Weirell, Västerås, Sweden, DX LISTENING DIGEST) What was the I in SIO?

11755, 5 Jan at 1000, HCJB Kununurra Australia with ``Sunday Night Alive`` Regards, (Lennart Weirell, Västerås, Sweden, EDXP via DXLD)

11755, not sure which site as no ID, but decent level at 1040 as I await one (Hans Johnson, Rio Hondo, Texas, Jan 6, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

Dear Mr Gupta, I greatly appreciate your comprehensive report and the fwding of various other reports and comments. The transmitter was running with 13 kw only as we are still in the testing phase. It is most interesting you were able to hear the signal in India off the back of our antenna. I have requested our studio people email you the program schedule. Our team of people in Kununurra are finalising the India antenna to commence transmission on the 12th January. I will keep you informed. Thank you again for your very valuable assistance. Best wishes (Ian Williams, Frequency Manager, HCJB Australia via Alokesh Gupta, India, Jan 6, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Local morning [0700 - 1200] propagation from Australia is currently poor most days, but today [Jan. 7] there is speech on 11755 in English at 1000 under a strong Finland. It's only audible in quiet periods and impossible to copy, but - not knowing of any other station using this frequency at this time - I assume it is coming from HCJB Australia. Shepparton 11880 is also well audible today, despite strong side-splash. When via Ecuador, HCJB on 11755 often caused co-channel QRM to

FNL - especially in the winter period. 73s (Noel R. Green [Blackpool - NW England, Jan 7, Cumbredx mailing list via DXLD)

** AUSTRALIA. CHRISTIAN RADIO STATION BROADCASTS TO PACIFIC
Monday, January 6, 2003. Posted: 08:40:22 (AEDT)

A Christian radio station has achieved a five-year goal to broadcast overseas from its base in the Kimberley. The group, Heraldng Christ Jesus Blessings, went to air for the first time yesterday, broadcasting to islands in the South Pacific from its property near Kununurra.

The station has faced considerable local opposition to its plans to broadcast Christian and other programs into Asia but last year it won an appeal against the local shire's rejection of its plans. Manager Mike Moore says within weeks the station will expand its reach to India.

"Certainly there will be people that still don't want us to be on air, but on the whole we believe that people have accepted us and certainly as far as the church community, they've been very, very supportive and there's a lot of other people in the community that have been very supportive as well," Mr Moore said. (ABC News Online Jan 6 via Artie Bigley, DXLD) Rather lacking in detail. What was the basis for the local shire's rejexion?

** AUSTRIA. 17895, Radio Afrika International via Moosbrunn, 1543-1558 Jan 3 with continuous up-beat dance music in vernaculars, with several noted IDs in French. Signal blocked by the Voice of America sign-on at 1558 in English (Edward Kusalik, Alberta, Jan 6, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

** BELARUS'. Good signal on reactivated 6115 this morning, same programme as 279 and 6080. 6080 is still somewhat buzzy, so seems to be unchanged. Later in the day heavy splash from Finland 6120 on 6115. There are also some spurious signals from 6115 on 6010/6220 and 12230. No other new or reactivated frequencies found.

[non] Re gh's question about Russia on 6115:

The Radio Rossi transmission (actually at 310 from the Taldom site using 250 kW) has no connection with the Belarus' transmission. It has been there since the beginning of B02 and goes off at 0500. I assume that Belarus' goes on at 0400, which is their normal sign on time on LW 279 (Olle Alm, Sweden, Jan 6, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Glenn, in answer to your question about Radio Rossi on 6115 kHz: this is not the transmitter in Belarus, but one in Moscow which is scheduled 0200-0500 (at 310 degrees, towards North Atlantic). 73s,

(Bernd Trutenau, Lithuania, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** BELGIUM. Eugene Gebruers (sp?), former contributor of DX news and recordings to RVi Radio World, passed away in October. He was born in 1923. This show, still on demand Jan 6 tho a new one ought to be there, was a nice tribute to him. Mentions that he and gh used to listen to and quote each other's news. Unfortunately, I did not hear about this in time for SW Year in Review 2002 (Frans Vossen, RVi RW Dec 29, notes by gh for DXLD)

** BELGIUM. FLEMISH EXTERNAL BROADCASTER LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE |
Excerpt from press release in English from Radio Vlaanderen
Internationaal (RVI) on 7 January

From now on RVI [Radio Vlaanderen Internationaal, the Flemish external broadcaster] will be serving its audience not only via de radio, but also more than ever via its thoroughly revamped website, <http://www.rvi.be>

When you open the new RVI site you will find news in text, supplemented with photos and sound excerpts: first the major Flemish and world news, then local news, sport, a daily press review and a review of the past week.

The RVI website also provides links to all sorts of organizations and institutions that offer useful information about Flanders and Belgium, such as travel advice from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, information about flights or train journeys to Brussels, information about art and culture. Moreover the RVI site has an interactive section, where surfers throughout the world can comment, react to what others have to say, give helpful hints, suggestions, etc...

Thanks to the combination of these three aspects: news, service, and the development of an international community of Flemings, RVI's slogan "at home in the world" is now more appropriate than ever. The Dutch language pages of the site are the most comprehensive, but there is also a generous offering in English, French and German. As with the previous website, the text stream is accompanied by audio information. RVI's radio programmes can be listened to both via livestream and by clicking up programmes "on demand".

Within the VRT, RVI has played a pioneering role in Internet applications. RVI was the first VRT [Vlaamse Radio en Televisieomroep, the Flemish public broadcaster] radio network to have its own fully-fledged website. This new site is a great step forward for RVI and thus for VRT-Radio in general. It does not mean however that RVI is abandoning "traditional" radio. That is apparent from RVI's new winter schedule. RVI's challenge continues to be to reach its audience to the

best of its ability, in function of the means of communication at the disposal of that audience. Its website is an important tool, but radio - via short wave, medium wave, satellite, DAB and cable-FM - remains its core activity. The interaction between radio and Internet can only be an inspiration for both media. Source: Radio Vlaanderen Internationaal press release, Brussels, in English 7 Jan 03 (via BBCM via DXLD)

** BRAZIL. Desde o dia 15 de janeiro, as freqüências da rádio Gazeta, de São Paulo (SP), retransmite a programação da Rádio Canção Nova, de Cachoeira Paulista (SP). A programação católica, agora, pode ser ouvida nas freqüências habituais da Canção Nova: 4825, 6105 e 9675 kHz e pela Gazeta, em 5955, 9685 e 15325 kHz. (Célio Romais, Atividade DX Jan 6 via DXLD) so not de-religifying itself as previously reported

** BRAZIL. A Rádio Cultura, 17815 kHz, São Paulo, está de novo no ar retransmitindo os 1200 kHz! As demais freqüências da Rádio Cultura retransmitem o seguinte: 6170 kHz, retransmite 103.3 Cultura FM, e em 9615 kHz retransmite as ondas mágicas, 1200 kHz (Rudolf W. Grimm, São Bernardo, SP - Brazil, Jan 7, radioescutas via DXLD)

** CANADA. DW, 6310, 0140 Nov 27. English/German language lesson, 0145 RCI ID and cut-off in mid-word; poor. DRM test or just wrong frequency input? (Tom Williamson, Ont., Jan 0DXA Listening In via DXLD)

We have explained cases like this, and this specific case time and again --- we can give away reams of knowledge and info, but can't make people read it! One more time: Sackville is worse than most SW sites in putting out mixing products. The antennas/transmitters are not sufficiently isolated from each other. All you have to do is find two frequencies nearby emanating from that site, which are equidistant from the spur (Of course, now that RCI treats its relay deal schedule as Top Secret, despite giving such away with RCI IDs, it's not so easy to look up). In this case, it's DW on 6040 and Vietnam on 6175 which produce the mix on 6310, 135 kHz apart (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CHINA. 6285 kHz, Jan 5 2003, 2258 UT tune-in, nonstop Chinese instrumental music. Off abruptly at 2330. If this is a jammer, what is it jamming?

Also heard Family Radio on 6300 around this same time with ID in English, into Chinese talks by OM and YL. Presumably from Taiwan. Thanks (Jilly Dybka, TN, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

** CUBA. After last issue, confirmed another airing of RHC's Spanish DX program En Contacto, at 0140 UT Mon Jan 6. Judging from point in progress, must have started a bit before scheduled 0135. Only

frequency heard was again 15230; cursory check for other known RHC frequencies did not uncover any, but surely there are more, unless some of the transmitters are down (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

A programaÃ,o em espanhol da rÃdio Havana Cuba responde Ãs cartas e informes de recepÃ,o dos ouvintes nas segundas-feiras. Confira em 15230 e 9600 kHz, a partir de 0200. A dica Ã© do OsÃias Fantinelli, de Jacutinga (RS). (CÃlio Romais, @tividade DX Jan 6 via DXLD)

RHC has not been on 11705-USB for a couple of months, English to NAm 0100-, so a great chance to hear RAE English weekdays 0200-0300 on 11710 (Bob Thomas, CT, Jan 2, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** CUBA [and non]. R. MartÃ survey news item from
<http://www.cnsnews.com/ViewForeignBureaus.asp?Page=%5CForeignBureaus%5Carchive%5C200301%5CFOR20030107a.html>

DISSIDENTS SPLIT ON RADIO MARTI'S REFLECTION OF CUBAN LIFE
By Jim Burns, CNSNews.com Senior Staff Writer, January 07, 2003

(CNSNews.com) - A survey of dissidents living in Cuba shows an overwhelming majority like the news they hear on America's Radio Marti, but barely half believe the broadcast service to the communist-controlled island represents Cuban society.

The survey, conducted by a group called the Cuba Commission, involved secret interviews with 343 Cubans, and some of the survey results were withheld because the commission said survey participants feared retribution by the government of Cuban dictator Fidel Castro.

Among the omitted results was the percentage of Cubans who actually listen to Radio Marti, which is broadcast via short wave and medium wave radio.

Cuba Commission officials said in a statement Saturday that 93 percent of those surveyed think Radio Marti's Cuba and foreign news is "credible" and has the "right focus."

An unspecified number of respondents said Radio Marti's educational and entertainment programming should be increased, and some participating in the survey want the U.S. to take steps to overcome what they called "Cuban government interference" of Radio Marti's broadcasts.

The dissidents were more closely split on the question of whether Radio Marti represents Cuban society. Fifty-two percent said Radio Marti well represented Cuban society while 40 percent said it did not

completely represent Cuban society. The remaining eight percent said it did not represent Cuban society at all.

Some dissidents also suggested the installation of a transmitter at the U.S. Navy base in Guantnamo Bay, Cuba, a question that U.S. Office of Cuba Broadcasting Director Dr. Salvador Lew declined to answer.

"This is a technical matter," said Lew. "I just believe that we have to look at several options. But the best person to answer that is probably the resident of the White House."

The White House did not return phone calls Monday seeking further comment. But when Lew was appointed by President Bush in July 2001 to head the Marti broadcast operations, Bush made his position clear.

"My number one priority is to make sure that Radio and TV Marti are broadcast clearly to Cuba," said Bush. "In order to do that, I have instructed him [Lew] to use all available means to overcome the jamming of Radio and TV Marti."

ADIOS, RADIO MARTI?

While Bush and a majority of Cubans in the survey want to see Radio Marti continue broadcasting, there are some in Congress and in the Cuban-American community who would like to see it cease broadcasting completely because of financial considerations and the belief that Castro is jamming the broadcasts and preventing them from reaching the Cuban people.

The Cuba Policy Foundation, a group that wants the economic embargo lifted against Cuba, considers Radio Marti and its television counterpart, TV Marti, failed programs.

"If the United States wants to flood Cuba with the flow of ideas and tools for building democracy, rather than wasting tens of millions of taxpayer dollars on a failed program, American tourists and investors should be allowed into Cuba," said Sally Grooms Cowal, foundation president.

"The broadcasts are just another example of the pattern of failure in U.S. policy toward Cuba," Cowal said.

Others would prefer to better spend the money currently used to pay for broadcasts to Cuba, including Rep. Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.).

"We would like to see more independent news back on Radio Marti," said Matthew Specht, a spokesman for Flake. "Since they moved it down to

Miami, it has become an anti-Castro station and Cuban people already know that and they don't need to be told that Castro is a bad guy," he said.

The Cuba Working Group, a bipartisan coalition of congressional lawmakers who want to ease U.S. trade and travel restrictions against Cuba, said both Martis should be eliminated.

"The U.S. government has spent over \$400 million in taxpayer money on radio and television broadcasts directed at Cuban citizens. In principle, this is a worthy effort, but in practice its record has been mixed," the group said in a statement on its website.

"TV Marti operates when nobody watches because international broadcast rules require that the U.S. not interfere with Cuban broadcast transmissions," the group claimed. "Consequently, TV Marti reaches no audience in Cuba and is utterly without purpose."

But some Cubans have found an important purpose in the broadcasts. Ernesto Díaz Rodriguez, a Cuban exile writer who spent 23 years in Cuban prisons, said he and many of his fellow inmates used to huddle in jail cells to hear Radio Marti, which he called a voice of hope from the U.S.

Rodríguez believes the broadcasts should continue because of Castro's hold on state-run Cuban media. "We have to remind those who have apparently forgotten that the right to information also applies to the citizens of this island nation that exists just 90 miles off the North American coast," Rodriguez said (via Alan Pennington, BDXC-UK, Caversham UK, DXLD)

** CYPRUS TURKISH. R. Bayrak, 6150, (best in 6149.99 LSB) very weak 2200-2205 Jan 6 with nearly inaudible talk. Just before someone else's pips at 2203 I heard the "Radio Bayrak" ID, the "International" part if there was one, obliterated by the pips. Of course, I will need to hear more to be able to send a report to the station (Jim Renfrew, Byron NY, Drake R8, longwires, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** ECUADOR. R. María, 3279.5, Jan 7 0510-0600 with lots of IDs by sweet-sounding female, 0600 into rosary in Spanish (Ron Trotto, IL, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** ERITREA [non]. Glenn, Wolfgang, Has anyone yet confirmed hearing the new Eritrean opposition station, Voice of the Eritrean People? You'll recall that it was due to have begun broadcasting, on Sundays only, on 1 December. Reports on the putative schedule have been rather confused, but it has been publicized as 1630-1700 on 15735 (to Africa and the Middle East) and 1700-1730 on 7530 (to Europe). I can hear

nothing at the advertised times. 7530 is difficult in any case in this area (east Africa) because of co-channel Hargeysa and China. But 15735 is clear. I've also tried 15375. It has just occurred to me that I also ought to try 17535. Frequency usage suggests a European site. Any ideas? Juelich? Happy New Year, (Chris Greenway, Nairobi, Kenya, Jan 3, DX LISTENING DIGEST) Also heard nothing Jan 5 (Greenway, Jan 6, ibid.)

** GERMANY. I ask Heidi Lucas of DW Technical regarding the future of English broadcasts to Australia and she asked the head of DW departments Peter Senger. He stated that he will know more and be able to give a statement following the directors' reunion next week. So, at the moment we still do not know; when and if I hear anything further, then I shall inform you all (Michael Stevenson, Port Macquarie, N.S.W., Australia, June 6, EDXP via DXLD)

** GERMANY. The DW German language course, Deutsch, Warum Nicht? Is really quite good. You can listen on the radio, or you can go to the very extensive section on the internet. The programs themselves are downloadable in mp3 format, and the texts are downloadable as .pdf files. The courses are available in a number of languages, too. A commendable effort by Deutsche Welle (Fred Waterer, Ont., Programming Matters, Jan 0DXA Listening In via DXLD) see also CANADA

** GERMANY. Today only B5 Aktuell was carried throughout the day on 6085, so the Bayern2Radio and Bayern 1 slots are indeed gone and 6085 is now all news all the time (Kai Ludwig, Germany, Jan 3, DX LISTENING DIGEST) Heard a B5 Aktuell ID myself Jan 7 at 0700 in splash of DGS Antigua (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** GERMANY EAST. Hi Glenn, Just a small correction to the piece by Roger Tidy: to my recollection the mediumwave frequency of O.P.S. Berlin (and of the Danish transmitter) was 1430 kHz, not 1421 kHz. I believe this was the transmitter at Burg that also broadcast the other clandestine operations Freiheitsender 904 (which despite its name was actually on 908 kHz) and der Deutsche Soldatensender on 935 kHz. All of these had the same pattern of several 30 minute transmissions a day. 73, (Andy Sennitt, Netherlands, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Hi Glenn, I heard and QSLed Out Post Station Berlin for reception on August 26, 1968 on 9730. A taped report resulted in a normal RBI QSL card and accompanying letter from RBI noting their technicians were surprised the service was audible in the United States. (I had hoped for a special O.P.S.-Berlin QSL!). At some point, 9730 was dropped from service for O.P.S.-Berlin (Bill Matthews, OH, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

This is all very interesting to me, as I must admit I have no

recollexion of such a service. Of course, I was otherwise occupied in August of 1968! (Glenn Hauser, USAF ret., DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** GREECE [non]. How does VOA justify the weird frequency of 7980 (or is it 7890?) for its Greek language relay? Full DSBAM, high power, at around 0730 UT (Hue Miller, WA, June 6, swprograms via DXLD)

** GUAM. Subject: [SWL] MY VISIT TO KTWR

The trip to KTWR takes you down a winding road on one side of the island. Past many homes, where you can see where roofs were torn off. It also takes you Past AWR and you can pull alongside the road to see the spectacular antennas. They are very close to the Pacific Ocean and it's a beautiful site. On this same road further down in the distance you begin to see the site of KTWR. But, you have to drive a lot further and it's easy to get lost towards the entrance to the station. Just as I was parked near the path to it, the station engineer came past me. If you ever get the chance, you should come to Guam and check out these antennas. By the way, many power line men were busy along the roadside putting the power lines back in place, and also many street lights were hanging from the poles but not in the normal position.

Yesterday I mentioned about being able to view the transmitter site of KTWR. And also I made mention of a few other things. I carry several HT radio's, a Vertex VR5, Yaesu FT 530 an a Pro 25 police scanner tuned to the aircraft bands. My FT530 instantly picked up a buzzing noise as I approached the station area.

The engineer met me in the parking lot and allowed me to come inside to witness them turning the keys to the transmitters. A Harris transmitter. As we were talking, he opened a panel to one and I saw some of the instruments to it. He reached up and pushed the button to the exciter, which he said he likes to warm up about 6 minutes before turning on the transmitter. I heard a short noise about a few minutes later. That was the warning device that said to you it was ready. He temporarily closed the door to activate the transmitters. I noticed on this door no frequency counter telling you what frequency it was on as I had seen one at the FEBC station on Saipan about a year ago.

The engineer tells me the tubes are about \$6,000 apiece and there were about 6 of 'em. The transmitter pushes about 100,000 watts or more.

Later he and the other engineer went into a little room and pushed some control knobs that set everything in motion. Station identifier was coming through the speakers. And unlike the FEBC studios, there was no one behind the microphone. It was preset from somewhere else.

In parting, I asked if he had any frequency information and brochures I could have; he handed several but not with frequencies. The QSL cards that some people get when they ask, was one I picked up.

Unsigned of course. As we started to part from the station and went into the parking lot area where my rented car was, I was shown a rather large box that looked like it weighed about a ton. He informed me that these were the repair parts for the antennas. They had just arrived a few days before and were waiting to be uncrated. I was a little nervous about turning on my shortwave receiver being so close to the antennas and figured I better wait till later. But never found the chance to do so, as I was driving past the same site of AWR. I witnessed the beautiful sunset behind it.

Today I went around and looked to see if any progress with Radio Baragatta [sic] and it wasn't. It will probably take a while for this one. As there was nothing seen as to anyone trying to untangle the web that was damaged.

Some sad news: we're due to sail from here soon around the 21st, but due to come back in March for a yard period, so maybe I will be able to see more again. Plan to attend the Mariana Amateur radio club (MARC) meeting tomorrow. Will let you know what's up with that. Heard there is a second repeater on the island said to be on 145.430 and they claimed it had echo link but never heard a peep yet. 73's from Gilligan's other island Guam, (Larry Fields, n6hpx/du1, Jan 6, swl via DXLD)

** HONDURAS. Re. Luz y Vida, 3250.04, Jan 1 0545-0605+ on late for NY with Spanish talk, IDs, local rustic music. Good-strong (Brian Alexander, PA, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** INDIA. Tests noted from AIR Chennai (?) on 9535 with relay of AIR Delhi FM II programs. Presumed schedule is 0130-0530 0930-1230. This is in parallel to 9425 (Bangalore), 9470 (Aligarh) 9470 is also tested from Delhi for National Channel at 1320-0043. Look out for tests from Chennai at 1245-1840 soon on 9 MHz. ===== 73 (Jose Jacob, India, Jan 6, dx_india via DXLD)

** INTERNATIONAL. RALLY PARIS DAKAR EN EL ...TER

No sÈ si a'n contin'a el desarollo de la competencia de Rally Paris-Dakar, pero esta info, que habÌa guardado en "una bandeja", la enviÛ el colega Manuel Jes's a la Lista Radioescutas:

Hello radioescutas, Informo que se encontra activa a estaÂ,o especial que acompanha a 25th ediÂ,o do j. celebre Ralli PARIS/DAKAR, cujo partida teve origem Hoje dia 01/01/2003.

Todos os radioescutas e radioamadores que escutem ou contactem esta estÁ,o especial ter,,o direito a um cart,,o QSL especial. Esta estaÁ,o especial tem sido aguardada com grande expectativa, vai ser feita uma experiÍncia muito interessante, a estaÁ,o ir· ser operada de 5 PaÌses diferentes a saber: FranÁa; Espanha; Tunisia; Libia e Egypto.

Os operadores desta estaÁ,o especial ser,,o os radioamadores (F5PN) Jean Gabriel (FrancÍs) e (S525K) Marko amador (Esloveno). As emissies s,,o feitas em paralelo com o Ralli e de locais escolhidos e devidamente autorizados nos diferentes PaÌses. Estas emissies s,,o aguardadas com muito interesse em especial dentro da parte Africana do Ralli.

As frequÍncias previstas para emiss,,o s,,o as seguintes na modalidade de SSB, atenÁ,o aos radioescutas programem os vossos radios com a modalidade de SSB, ajustanto os vossos receptores com a funÁ,o do BFO: 7.085 MHz; 14.210 MHz; 18.135 MHz; 21.310 MHz; 28.510 MHz. Em Morse CW: 7.025 MHz; 14.020 MHz; 18.075 MHz; 21.020 MHz. A variaÁ,o em frequÍncia ser· de + ou - 10 kHz dependendo do QRM. Votos de boas escutas. (Manuel Jesus, Sintra, Portugal, Visite: <http://www.syrian.pt> <http://www.fabulastikus.com> (via Arnaldo Slaen, Jan 7, ConexiÛn Digital via DXLD) Maybe over now; it's been a week (gh, DXLD)

** INTERNATIONAL VACUUM. I'd like to add Sirius Satellite Radio to this discussion. While XM seems to be the more "healthy" of the two services (at least relative to one another), it seems to me that Sirius has the more diverse programming offerings --- especially for someone interested in international content. Both have more than enough diverse music services; but XM seems lacking in the spoken-word genre. Yes, XM has the "Americas stream" BBCWS, but unfortunately it ends there. Sirius has the less diverse BBCWS news and info stream, but has WRN --- which offers a variety of international radio services (RN, RA, RNZI, Channel Africa, R. Prague, more) --- in addition to NPR Talk, a separate NPR service for satellite listeners, a PRI satellite service, and CSPAN radio. (XM does have CSPAN, but none of the others.)

Here's the dilemma:

XM pluses: BBCWS "rich mix", more versatile receivers (home, car, boombox a la Delphi), lower monthly cost, healthier corporate financials (though only relatively speaking) (and, perhaps, better technology as discussed by Joe Buch in this forum some time ago. I wonder about the significance of the latter as I've not heard anyone complain about Sirius' performance or audio quality, nor compare Sirius audio unfavorably with XM).

Sirius pluses: Much more diverse news and info offerings (as detailed

above), less expensive selling cost of hardware (relative to XM).

While XM's plus list is longer, I would suggest that to those who frequent this forum, the first plus listed for Sirius would carry enormous weight. (It does with me.) Since I can get more than satisfactory music selection and performance from my CD player, the kicker for me when it comes to sat radio is the potential to have more diverse news and info programming in the car--preferably from international sources. To be honest, if Sirius were to debut something similar to the Delphi slew of versatile "receivers", I'd probably sign up for Sirius right now.

As it is, I'm still on the fence. Maybe it's prudent to wait for XM to absorb Sirius or see how DRM turns out? What's a poor boy to do? :-) (John Figliozzi, NY, swprograms via DXLD)

XM DOES have a hefty "spoken word" schedule; it's just that BBC is basically all it offers in "international" content.

But they do have CNBC, Fox News, CNN (2 channels), CSPAN, CNN en EspaÑol, Bloomberg News, and even CNET radio, as well as several sports talk channels like ESPN Radio, and several fringe channels like an all-African American talk channel ("The Power"), "Ask!" (ask experts, sort of like that NPR show with the car guys), "Buzz XM", which advertises "America's Hottest and Most Controversial Talk Stars" (read: Art Bell), and even "Sonic Theatre", with audio books and radio dramas (along with the previously mentioned all Old Time Radio channel, "RadioClassics") (Craig Seufert, swprograms via DXLD)

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -- XM Satellite Radio Inc., a satellite radio broadcaster, said this week that it reached financing agreements totaling \$450 million that should provide the cash needed until its operations reach break-even. XM stock jumped more than 10 percent following the news.

The Washington-based company said the package includes \$200 million from a sale of notes convertible into common stock at \$3.18 a share, and a small concurrent stock sale.

Also, General Motors Co., which is installing XM radios in 25 different 2003 vehicle lines, has agreed to \$250 million in payment deferrals and related credit facilities through 2006, XM said.

"With this financing package, we believe we have achieved full funding through cash flow break-even," XM President and Chief Executive Hugh Panero said in a statement Monday.

XM and rival Sirius Satellite Radio Inc. have struggled to remain

viable as the market for the capital-intensive satellite radio industry ramps up.

Both XM and Sirius have lost money as they try to attract subscribers. Sirius said in November it was preparing for bankruptcy if debtholders did not approve a restructuring that included a debt-for-equity swap.

XM shares were up 39 cents, or 13 percent, at \$3.39 on Nasdaq in early trade. Sirius shares were up 1 cent at 55 cents, also on Nasdaq.

In addition to the financing package, XM said it will start an offer this week to exchange its \$325 million of outstanding 14 percent senior secured notes due 2010 for new 14 percent senior secured discount notes due 2009, warrants and cash.

Based on sales to date and projections through the end of the year, XM said it expects to have more than 350,000 radios sold and ready for activation by December 31, either through retailers or automakers. The actual year-end activated subscriber total is expected to be 340,000 to 350,000 (via Craig Seufert, NH, Jan 5, DXLD)

I think John Figliozzi did a marvelous job of boiling down the issues into a concise statement of the situation. Let me try to clear up a few misconceptions I have seen in this thread recently as expressed by others:

1. XM says they now have enough cash to reach the "cash flow" break even point. The Reuters' article is wrong on this count. Cash-flow break even is different and less than actually breaking even. You can have positive cash flow and still be losing money. It is typical of start-up situations that they become cash-flow positive before they become earnings positive. In fact securities analysts use the cash-flow break even point as an early indicator that the company may actually earn some money soon. Cash-flow break even simply means you are taking in more revenue than you are spending each month. That means you should not have to go back to the well for more cash to continue business operations.

2. The total number of subscribers at year end should be about 350,000 not the 100,000 somebody tossed out here. XM has still not announced their year-end numbers to my knowledge so this is somewhat of a guess. I am somewhat worried that they may have missed their 350,000 target because after the past quarters' end they have been quick to announce their subscriber totals. Here we are almost a week into the next quarter and still no announcement. Maybe this week?

3. General Motors just completed their best December sales in history due to zero percent interest rate and price incentives. GM is not

making any money on these cars but what they are doing is pushing a lot of cars out the door. Many of these cars will have XM radios installed as factory equipment and the subscription price will be folded into the monthly payment. So I would expect these customers to be more or less locked in for the duration of their payment contracts which can range up to 5 years. At zero percent interest there is no incentive to pay off the car sooner than five years so my guess is that most buyers would opt for the longest payment cycle available to minimize the payments. General Motors loses but XM could make out fine. The early take-up rate for the XM service among Cadillac purchasers was around 85%. I have seen no recent data on this aspect. In effect they are giving away the factory receivers as the cost of the receiver is amortized over five years at zero percent interest. If the price of the receiver option is \$200, then the buyer would be paying \$3.33 per month over 60 months. In terms I can relate to, that's less than a 6 pack of beer per month even if you drink cheap beer. The radio and the subscription fee cause no pain for the buyer because they are buried in the \$300-\$500 per month car payment.

4. In my opinion Sirius is out of the immediate woods. Their recent refinancing deal will screw the existing common stockholders by reducing their equity in the surviving company to only about 7%. But even 7% is better than nothing which is where Sirius was headed before they cut their refinancing deal.

5. Art Bell is no longer heard on satellite or terrestrial channels. He has retired.

Disclaimer: I am not a licensed securities analyst or advisor. I just play one on the swprograms mail list.

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(Joe Buch, DE, swprograms via DXLD)
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** IRAN [non]. Clandestine (Iranian). 11575, Voice of Iran via Russia [France? -- gh] *1630-1705 Jan. 2. Sign-on with orchestra anthem, pause at 1631 (then the signal changed levels as if antenna/direction change). Followed with up-beat patriotic song. Noted at 1633 with a station ID for ``Seda-ya Iran, sedya-ya Iran`` (repeated), followed with schedule/frequencies. This was followed with a long commentary about the Kor'an, the teachings and messages set forth. Many references to the Taliban and to al-Qaida. Noted to 1700, pause, into another ID and newscast followed. Signal was good at a fair level (Edward Kusalik, Alberta, Jan 6, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

** IRAN [non]. VOICE OF SOUTHERN AZERBAIJAN TO START BROADCASTING TO IRAN ON 8 JANUARY | Text of report by Azerbaijani news agency Turan

Baku, 6 January: Voice of Southern Azerbaijan [northern Iran] will start broadcasting programmes to Iran on 8 January, the National Revival Movement of Southern Azerbaijan has told Turan. The whereabouts of TV and radio facilities is kept secret, the same source said. It is planned that the radio will broadcast on 9570 MHz radio frequency at 2000 Tabriz time (2030 Baku time [1630 gmt]) on Wednesdays and Thursdays. In February, the radio will start broadcasting every day. It will be aired to Azerbaijan and Iran. Source: Turan news agency, Baku, in Russian 1620 gmt 6 Jan 03 (via BBCM via DXLD)

** IRAQ [non]. A look at Info Radio's latest leaflet:
<http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/030105/168/2z7qv.html>
(via Artie Bigley, DXLD)

** ITALY [non]. HIGH POWER SHORTWAVE (INTERNATIONAL) BROADCASTS
Dear Sirs, I just found your email address on your Web site, and thought you may be interested in our Int'l radio operations.

We are a non profit, volunteer based association of broadcasters <http://www.nexus.org> and since 1988 our mission has been to provide relaying facilities from Europe to several radio stations and program producers from all around the world. Some of us here have more than 40 years experience in the field of International (Shortwave) broadcasting.

We have just recently upgraded our shortwave transmitting facilities, and we can now offer airtime at very competitive rates with 10, 50, 100, 250 and 500 kW from Europe to any location in the world. We can cover especially well: China, India, Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East including Israel/Palestine, the UK, and the whole of Western Europe. Directional antennas may be used to beam a broadcast to any desired area, on any available frequency during your preferred time of operation. We are also able to offer parallel broadcasts beamed to different regions at the same time.

Our Network Control Centre is located in Milan (Italy) with additional high speed Internet facilities in Frankfurt (Germany) and Los Angeles (USA), and uses the latest digital technologies to operate all audio feeds to our station. For example, we can receive your programs via the Internet for live or later broadcast, saving a lot money on a satellite or phone feed.

If you are interested in a quotation or a sample coverage map, please let me know your desired target area, time, and number of hours per day, and we will get back to you. Please do not hesitate to call or email if you need additional information.

Thank You, and best seasons' greetings from Milano, Italy. Ron

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(Ron Norton, NEXUS-IBA support, PO Box 11028, 20110 Milano, Italy
e-mail : sales@nexus.org or ron@nexus.org Jan 7, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

It's quite clear now that they are just brokering/reselling time on existing major SW facilities, as they are also trying to sell their own low-power transmitters, but any customers yet? Not sure what the point is, and why whatever clients want or need to be identified with IRRS in Milan when this is done. We shall see if IRRS be as secretive as TDP as to actual facilities used. Let us hope not, but IRRS has a history of not being candid. One might ask: why the middleman? Could not a client get a better price by dealing direct with DTK, Merlin, or whatever? (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** JORDAN. R. Jordan, 11690, Sat Dec 28 1715-1731*, English, ``Jordan Weekly`` news program. IDs. Surprisingly good, strong signal over RTTY (Brian Alexander, PA, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** KOREA NORTH. COR...IA DO NORTE - A Voz da CorÈia, antiga P`yongyang, considerada uma emissora muito fechada pelos ouvintes, tambÈm possui um espaÈo de interatividade em sua programaÅ,o em espanhol. Aos s.bados, responde as cartas e informes dos ouvintes. Um dos hor.rios em que transmite È a partir de 0000, em 11735 kHz. Recentemente, OsÈias Fantinelli, de Jacutinga (RS), ouviu os locutores da emissora responderem carta de LeÙnidas dos Santos Nascimento, de S,,o Jo,,o Evangelista (MG). (CÈlio Romais, @tividade DX via DXLD)

** KURDISTAN [non?]. On Jan 5, heard a male announcer in mid-east language on 4402.2 kHz at 0333 tune-in. Heard a clear mention of Kurdistan around 0400. Haven't listened to entire tape yet. Then tonight (Jan 6 UT) at 0440, I checked 4402 but nothing there. However, it sounded like the same male announcer was on 4413.2 when I scanned over to there. Now at 0450 as I type this, a female announcer was heard along with some mid-east music. 73s- (John Sgrulletta, Mahopac, NY, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

** LESOTHO. 4800, 5 Jan 0246, R. Lesotho, M'sica local, Hino Nacional e ID por YL em sesotho ±s 0300, 35443. Emissora reativada depois de alguns meses fora do ar. TambÈm ouvida por Caio Fernandes Lopes em Itajuba-MG. 73 (Samuel C. ssio Martins, DX CLUBE DO BRASIL, S,,o Carlos SP, ConexiÛn Digital via DXLD)

4799.99, Radio Lesotho, 0245 Jan 6, Southern African vocal music, time pips at TOH, Lesotho national anthem matches

<http://www.countryreports.org/sounds/lesotho.mid> --- ID, frequencies, address, in vernacular language; reactivation, confirming Jari

Savolainen's tentative report on DXing.info (Ralph Brandi, AOR AR-7030 Plus, 250-foot mini-Beverage Tinton Falls, New Jersey, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

** LITHUANIA [and non]. I just found this in my mailbox. If this is true, there are regular transmissions from Sitkunai on 1386 since last night, daily at 2300 with the religious programme "Freundesdienst" from Switzerland. Would be really ironical because this broadcaster leases airtime also on Voice of Russia German service, so in fact would transmit on 1386 from both Bolshakovo and Sitkunai.

---Urspr,ngliche Nachricht---

From: "Sandro Blatter"
Subject: [A-DX] Radio Freundesdienst

Hallo Runde, Radio Freundesdienst sendet - laut Programmheft - seit 1.1.2003 zus%tzlich (neben RTL und Stimme Russlands) ,ber die Sendeanlagen von 'Radio Baltic Waves'. T%glich: ab 23.00 Uhr UTC Frequenz: 1'386 khz Keine Ahnung ob die Sendungen h^rbar sind, da ich eben die Info entdeckt habe. Berichte ,ber die anderen Sendungen werden innert Tagen (am besten mit einer PPC) beantwortet. Die Adresse in der Schweiz: Radio Freundesdienst; CH-5023 Biberstein. Gruss aus einer sehr st,rmischen Region -- Z,rich Sandro (via Kai Ludwig...)

[Later:] Indeed, Sitkunai with Freundesdienst programming on 1386, starting at 2300, could be 150 kW. Transmitter was already on before 2300 with ID loop, deep underneath co-channel Bolshakovo which signed off as always at 2300 after conclusion of the VoR Sodruzhestvo program, leaving Sitkunai in the clear for now. So what could be transmit after 2300? Mayak would be suitable audio... (Kai Ludwig, Germany, Jan 3, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** LITHUANIA. From January 1st "Radio Baltic Waves International" started regular broadcasting on 1386 kHz (daily at 2300-2315 UT, 750 kW, ND, Sitkunai). Best wishes, (Rimantas Pleikys, Lithuania, via Rachel Baughn, Jan 6, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** NICARAGUA. R. Miskut, 5770, RC-USB, Jan 1 0055-0655* on late for NY with Spanish talk, ID, variety of Spanish pops/ballads, US oldies, local rustic music. Weak but occasional fading up to a fair level (Brian Alexander, PA, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** OKLAHOMA. KTUL-TV, channel 8, Tulsa, is still running NWS on its SAP, which was coming in nicely Jan 7 around 1550 thanks to fog in the area. Most voiced by that new automaton, but Perfect Paul still butts in with timechecks, and I even heard a real human briefly for one item. The new machine waxes poetic, pronouncing wind with a long I! (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** OKLAHOMA [and non]. SOONER RADIO NETWORK AFFILIATES

750 KSEO Durant, OK
810 WHB Kansas City, MO
950 KFSA Fort Smith, AR
960 KGWA Enid, OK
1150 KNED McAlester, OK
1170 KV00 Tulsa, OK [outdated call --- now KFAQ]
1430 KALV Alva, OK
1450 KGFF Shawnee, OK
1510 KCTE Independence, MO

92.5 KPRV Heavener, OK
93.5 KRKZ Altus, OK
93.7 KICM Krum, TX
94.3 KX00 Elk City, OK
95.5 KITX Hugo, OK
95.5 KQMX Clinton, OK
95.9 KYBE Frederick, OK
96.7 KBEL Idabel, OK
98.1 KJMZ Lawton, OK
99.3 KADA Ada, OK
99.3 KLOR Ponca City, OK
100.1 KYFM Bartlesville, OK
101.1 KWOX Woodward, OK
102.1 KTFX Warner, OK
103.1 KRWA Waldron, AR
105.1 KBLP Lindsay, OK

(Art Blair, Folsom, CA, Jan 6, IRCA via DXLD)

Guess this has something to do with stupid ballgames? Never thought I would run a sports network list in DXLD, but, hey, it's about Oklahoma! (gh, Enid, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** PAKISTAN. 21465 kHz, RADIO PAKISTAN, full data QSL card in English (transmitter site 'near Islamabad' mentioned on extra sheet), card shows 'Miar Glacier Golden Peak 7027 m, Hoper Nagar, Gilgit'. The glacier picture and the people on it look like those pictures in the 'discover the Himalaya' books from the 60s. V/s on personal letter Ifthikar Hussain Malik, Senior Broadcast Engineer, Frequency Management Cell. He answered all my questions from my report, but 'pennants are out of stock', suggests to send reports via E-mail, also enclosed a sticker, in 64 days for a report without r.p. to Radio Pakistan, National Broadcasting House, Constitution Avenue, Islamabad - 44000, Pakistan. This was my first report to them since 14 years, but they still use the 'reference numbers' (on the envelope)

they already used in the 80s! Mine was Eng/FM/A-28/02! (M. Schoech, Germany, Dec 2002, Cumbre DX Jan 7 via DXLD)

** PERU. 6536, RD HUANCABAMBA. Huancabamba. 2348-0102* Ene. 5. Luego de varias semanas fuera del aire retorno la seÒal de esta emisora con programaciÛn presentada por su dueÒo Federico IbaÒez, mencionando un sabotaje que tuvieron los equipos de la emisora por parte de rivales polìticos, ya que Èl aspirÛ a la Alcaldia Provincial en las elecciones de Noviembre y por sus continuas denuncias de corrupciÛn administrativa. ``...Desde la ciudad que camina, Huancabamba tierra de hermosas y atractivas lagunas, en 100.1 frecuencia modulada, 820 Kcs en amplitud modulada y 6535 Kcs onda corta, Èsta es RD Huancabamba, la poderosa...`` La frecuencia en onda media no est. listada en el WRTH 2002 (Rafael RodrÌiguez, Colombia, ConexiÛn Digitalk via DXLD)

** RUSSIA. 6115: see BELARUS'; TAJIKISTAN

** RUSSIA [non]. GERMANY - 1323 kHz, VOICE OF RUSSIA, full data QSL card in English (transmitter site not included), card shows '3 old towers of the Kremlin' as well as a modern radio. V/s on personal letter Alla Smirnowa, Deutschsprachige Redaktion, also enclosed a sticker and a program-guide, in 70 days for a report without r.p. to Stimme Russlands, Deutscher Dienst, Pjanitskaja 25, 113326 Moskau, Russland (M. Schoech, Germany, Dec 2002, Cumbre DX Jan 7 via DXLD)

** SAUDI ARABIA. MEDIA TYCOON PLANS "MAJOR PROJECTS" TO PROMOTE ISLAM | Text of report in English by Saudi newspaper Arab News web site on 7 January

[note the mention of a radio station in English ñ on shortwave??]

Prominent [Saudi Arabian] businessman Salih Kamil, chairman of [investment group] Dallah al-Baraka [and founder of Arab Radio and Television, ART], said yesterday that his investment group has plans to launch four major media projects to present the true picture of Islam and Muslims to the outside world.

Speaking to reporters after a ceremony organized at King Abd al-Aziz University here to award him an honorary doctorate from Lakehurst University, Kamil said his group will launch an international news agency which will supply news and photos to media organs worldwide, a radio station broadcasting in English, a television channel in all major world languages and a public relations company in the United States.

The US university decided to award an honorary doctorate to the Saudi tycoon in recognition of his contributions to mass media. Makkah Governor Prince Abd al-Majid attended the ceremony. Lakehurst

President Prof Cliff Hesse delivered the opening speech.

In his acceptance speech, Kamil underscored the importance of mass media as the bridge of globalization and the most articulate and explicit means of interaction in the present world. Kamil pointed out that the scope of cultural dialogue has become broader and more extensive now than ever. He described the compensation suits filed in the United States on behalf of the relatives of the victims of 9/11 as unscrupulous attempts by some US attorneys to extort money from innocent people. Source: Arab News web site, Jeddah, in English 7 Jan 03 (via BBCM via DXLD)

** SOMALIA. GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE EQUIPMENT FOR RADIO MOGADISHU | Text of report by Somali government radio on 6 January

The minister of state in the prime minister's office of the Transitional Government of Somalia [TGS], Ahmad Dahir, today pledged to provide media equipment to [state-owned] Radio Mogadishu and the Ministry of Information. For more details, here is our reporter Abdinur Fodey:

[Reporter] The minister of state in the prime minister's office toured Radio Mogadishu's facilities in the city, including studios and offices. The minister listened to all the managers of all the sections he visited. He also listened to a speech by the head of Radio Mogadishu, Hon Muhammad Abdi Alin [phonetic].

The minister finally met all the staff in the meeting hall. He listened to tales of the plight of the staff that were presented to him by the head of Radio Mogadishu. Addressing the Radio Mogadishu staff, the minister praised the role played by them in the media and the programmes the station has aired over recently.

The minister promised to support Radio Mogadishu to receive the latest equipment that will improve its reception. The prime minister also said the government is willing to support its national broadcasting station. Source: Radio Mogadishu, Voice of the Republic of Somalia, in Somali 1700 gmt 6 Jan 03 (via BBCM via DXLD)

** SWEDEN [non]. LITHUANIA - 9980 kHz, RADIO NORD, full data QSL card in English (transmitter site Lithuania), card shows 'a ship'; the special program commemorated the 40th anniversary of the close down of Swedish offshore station Radio Nord, v/s Ronny Forslund, Programme Producer. Also enclosed promo for 'Rock'n Records by R. Forslund, large envelope with nice stamp, in 165 days for a report with 1 USD to Radio Nord Special Programme, Light Valley Media, Box 90, SE-82723 Ljusdal, Sweden (M. Schoech, Germany, Dec 2002, Cumbre DX Jan 7 via DXLD)

Lithuania. 9980 Radio Nord Memorial Programme via Sirkunai. Full data photo of vessel with radio tower, included a brochure for Rock'n Records, in 6 months, v/s Ronny Forslund, Programme Producer (Edward Kusalik, Alberta, Jan 6, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

** TAJIKISTAN. Please note that the transmitter on 801 kHz with IBB relays is not located in the capital Dushanbe, but at the high power transmitting centre Orzu in southern Tajikistan. The abbreviation "DB" (Dushanbe) in the IBB material is misleading. I assume that these codes are supplied by the transmitter providers and the IBB (like other relay broadcasters) are using them without alterations. There are many similar examples, like Armenia: 864 and 1314/1350 "ERV" =Yerevan, but the real location is Gavar in NE Armenia. 73s, (Bernd Trutenuau, Lithuania, Jan 6, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** TAJIKISTAN. Parallel program in ME language heard Jan 7 at 1307, poor on 4940, better on 4965; female announcer with light classical music. No ID heard, but Klingenfuss lists both as V. of Russia, via ``Dushanbe`` in Dari/Pashto (Ron Trotto, IL, DX LISTENING DIGEST) PWBR '2003' and HFCC agree; SW Guide also lists but noncommittal on site

** UKRAINE. Checked RUI's new 7375 Jan 1. Very good! Slight splash from 7365 and jammer at 0100; near excellent at 0400 (Bob Thomas, CT, Jan 2, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Radio Ukraine gives strange reception reports. It's an English language program but the reception reports are for programs only in the Ukrainian language. The announcements before are still useful (Wm. "Bill" Brady, Harwood MD, DX LISTENING DIGRST)

** U K. BBC PLANS FOR BROADCASTING HOUSE CHALLENGED

The BBC is facing a hitch in its plans to re-develop Broadcasting House into the world's largest news hub. Howard de Walden Estates, which owns a large amount of property in the immediate vicinity, has filed a writ at the High Court in London seeking an injunction against the development. The company argues that it would reduce the value of its properties. Managing Director Simon Baynham told the Financial Times 'We sold the site to the BBC in the Thirties. At the time of the deal, the BBC signed a restrictive covenant promising not to build on the site above a certain height. These proposals breach that covenant.' Construction work is due to begin in February. It's thought the BBC may offer Howard de Walden Estates an out-of-court settlement (© Radio Netherlands Media Network 6 January 2003 via DXLD)

** U S A. My VOA New Year's Day special which included interviews with Juhani Niinistö (YLE Radio Finland), Jonathan Marks (RNW), Jean Larin

(RCI), Jean-Gabriel Manguy (Radio Australia), and Barry Langridge (BBCWS) is now available at ...
<http://www.voanews.com/real/voa/english/comm/interview.ram>

Barry Langridge, BBCWS head of Middle East/Africa region, was especially interesting. The unabridged interview with him is at ...
<http://www.voanews.com/real/voa/english/comm/langridge.ram>
(Kim Elliott, DC, Jan 6, swprograms via DXLD)

** U S A. WWCR --- EQUAL OPPORTUNITY HATE

George Gentry Ministries is so obscure, that a google search turns up nothing but a reference to the program schedule on the WWCR website. I heard this broadcast quite by accident after a late night of tuning the dials. The program comes on at 630 am Sundays local time, 1130 UT on 5070, surrounded by some other (unusual) ``ministries''. Show seems to start abruptly, end abruptly. I've listened about 2 or 3 times and never heard a mailing address. He mentioned he was on WWCR --- no mention of any other station. No link on the WWCR page.

Mr. Gentry seems to believe that white people are the source of all the world's problems. This program, like other programs of this nature (I would include American Dissident Voices and Kingdom Identity Ministries in this category) has a mish mash of theology pushed, prodded and pulled into a grotesque shape designed to fit the presenter's viewpoint.

The most recent program railed against ``so-called black, conservative Republicans`` and other uneducated (by the ``so-called education system``) blacks. Conservative is another word for the Ku Klux Klan, which is marching daily in the streets of Washington. Toward the end of his program, he reminded listeners that black people are the descendants of the tribes of Israel (quoting a scripture reference I missed) and that only blacks will go to heaven. Furthermore Jesus was black. As far as heaven goes, there will be no whites there. I wonder if Pete Peters got the memo.

While I am no great theology student, my understanding is that Jesus was neither white, nor black. Mr. Gentry and Mr. Peters seemingly have more in common than either would like to probably admit (Fred Waterer, Ont., Programming Matters, Jan ODXA Listening In via DXLD)

** U S A [and non]. DR GENE SCOTT

After all these years, I still don't get his act. It's sometimes amusing to listen to him, sometimes disturbing and sometimes astounding. I used to be amused to hear him demand to be supported before he would ``teach''. He would then proceed to do nothing more

than read from some pseudo-scientific book about UFOs or the Bermuda Triangle that anyone could pick up at a used bookstore for a couple of bucks.

Heard him in early November with his usual blend of cool music and bombast. He was in a particularly cranky mood, threatening to walk out and just leave an empty chair on screen (might make for better radio). He was barking orders to the ``sheep`` to get busy and get on the phones, get their ``passes`` for that weekend's church service and of course to send him money. And apparently they do. I shake my head sometimes and wonder if it shouldn't be called the Co-dependent Church of Christ --- Of or relating to a relationship in which one person is psychologically dependent in an unhealthy way on someone who is addicted to a drug or self-destructive behavior, such as chronic gambling --- <http://www.dictionary.com> Improbably he just seems to keep rolling along (Fred Waterer, Ont., Programming Matters, Jan 0DXA Listening In via DXLD)

** U S A. AMERICAN DISSIDENT VOICES

No longer heard on WWCR, I have not heard this program in ages on shortwave. I was perusing their website however, which has the program in a number of formats on demand. Since the death of the chairman of the ``National Alliance`` Dr William Pierce, Kevin Alfred Strom has once again become the voice of the program. In many ways he is more dangerous than Pierce ever was. Pierce came across as the bitter old hateful man that he was. Strom is pretty smooth; his rhetoric can be a bit more subtle. Perhaps a little too smooth. Usual rhetoric about the controlled-media (read Jewish control) and threats facing the white race (Fred Waterer, Ont., Programming Matters, Jan 0DXA Listening In via DXLD)

** U S A. Stocktalk Live confirmed started already on WRMI 15725, when checked after 1430 Jan 7. Rather informal monolog by host pointing out micro-cap stox that seem to be on the way up. Frequent mentions of being on SW 15725 now, but it's only for one hour until 1530, when without his saying goodbye, WRMI switched to the ---yechh--- hummy, lo-fi Christian Media Network for another hefty dose of New World Order paranoia. I guess what's in this for STL is getting people to their website to sign up for 'premium' services. Inviting listener input on exactly how to do this program. Judging from program promos within, IBCRadio network also has an evening show on the paranormal, with a well-known host whose name I couldn't catch. I think I will take all this with a grain of salt, if I listen again at all (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. SPANISH BROADCASTING ACQUIRING THREE CHICAGO STATIONS

Hispanic Radio Advances in Chicago FM-Market January 3, 2003

Spanish Broadcasting System Inc. (SBS), the nation's largest Hispanic-owned radio operator, has entered into a definitive asset purchase agreement with Big City Radio Inc. to purchase three Chicago radio stations for \$22 million in cash.

The acquisition, which is subject to regulatory approval, would involve the stations WDEK-FM, WKIE-FM and WKIF-FM all of which broadcast in the greater Chicago area.

"We are excited about this expansion opportunity in Chicago FM radio," says Ra'l Alarcón, president and CEO of SBS. "The three stations will be simulcast with a new Spanish format. They will add to our existing WLEY-FM leadership position and provide us with clustering efficiencies in this important core market."

The Coconut Grove, Fla.-based broadcaster owns 24 station in some of the country's largest Hispanic markets, including San Antonio, New York, Los Angeles, Miami, San Francisco and Puerto Rico. Locally, the company operates KLEY-FM and KSAH-AM (from sanantonio.bizjournals.com via Sosedkin...)

Wow, the guys from Coconut Grove are fast! As of Monday, Jan. 6 WDEK-FM, WKIE-FM and WKIF-FM (92.5 and 92.7 MHz) are already broadcasting in Spanish. I heard some Latin American pop-music today. The stations were rather unique for Chicago FM-market since they carried (in a simulcast) lots of European dance music under a slogan "Energy 92.7/5." From my observations, they were extremely popular with a younger crowd of the Eastern European immigrants. Their old site can be accessed at <http://www.energy92fm.com/index2.shtml> (Sergei Sosedkin, IL, Jan 6, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

** U S A. HISPANIC RADIO NETWORK: <http://www.hrn.org/stations.html>
(Art Blair, Folsom, CA, Jan 6, IRCA via DXLD) Not to be confused with Tegucigalpa

** U S A. NATIONAL NETWORKS

EWTN Radio: Format: teaching, preaching, interviews, call-ins, some music. Eternal Word Television Network. 5817 Old Leeds Road, Irondale AL 35210. (205) 271-2900. On air December 28, 1992. Radio general manager: Frank Leurck. Radio Marketing Manager: John Pepe. Program Director: Thom Price. Website: <http://www.ewtn.com>. E-mail: radio@ewtn.com (In the Diocese of Birmingham)

Affiliates: Alabama: WEWN Birmingham, WQOP-FM Birmingham, ÜWMCJ Cullman-Decatur; California: Ünew Greenville, KJOP Hanford-Tulare-Visalia, KHOT Modesto, KSMH Sacramento, KWG Stockton; Florida: WQOP

Jacksonville; Illinois: WOLG Carlinville, WIHM Springfield; Kentucky: WMJR Lexington, WLCR Louisville; Michigan: WDEO Ann Arbor, WCAR Detroit, UWDBC Escanaba, WOAP Owosso, WMAX Saginaw. UWADW Sault Ste. Marie; Minnesota: WMIN Minneapolis-St Paul; Missouri: WRYT St Louis; Nebraska: KVSS Omaha; Nevada: KIHM Reno; New York: WLOF Buffalo; Ohio: WNOP Cincinnati, UWPAO Youngstown-Sharon, Pa.; Pennsylvania: WISP Philadelphia; South Carolina: WNFO Hilton Head Island-Beaufort; Tennessee: WHHQ Johnson City-Bristol-Kingsport; Texas: KMFH Austin, KBMD Marble Falls, KJBC Midland-Odessa; Washington: KBLE Seattle, KHSS Walla Walla; Wisconsin: UWYNW Antigo-Wausau, WDVM Eau Claire, WJOK Green Bay, UWKBH La Crosse, WHFA Madison, UWGLB-FM Milwaukee, WMMA Wausau-Stevens Point.

Not on the air yet.

Radio Católica Mundial (EWTN Spanish) ó California: KYNO Fresno, KSMM Minneapolis-St Paul. Florida: WOTS Orlando (Catholic Radio Directory, Jan via DXLD)

** U S A. NORTHEAST VANCOUVER: RADIO STATION POWERS UP TO 50,000 WATTS
Sunday, January 5, 2003 By SCOTT HEWITT, Columbian staff writer

The power is up, and the heat is on.

Radio station KVAN is now broadcasting at its long-sought target power of 50,000 watts during the day from towers in northeast Vancouver [WA], and station manager Mark Ail is already experiencing a backlash of signal-interference complaints from nearby neighbors.

East Vancouver residents long have blamed radio signals from the towers, at Northeast 34th Street near 155th Avenue, for everything from noisy phone lines and snowy television pictures to garage door openers and microwave ovens that go on and off by themselves.

On Friday, Ail said KVAN has received 22 complaint calls since Dec. 20, when the broadcast power began cranking up from 10,000 watts to 50,000 watt.

Despite the spike in complaint calls, Ail said he has a hard time imagining turning the juice back down.

"At this point we've pretty much rebuilt the transmitter and done all the work at the transmitter site. Other than routine maintenance, there's nothing else the FCC requires us to do. We anticipated the power increase would lead to an increase in calls, and we will continue to respond to them."

Answering complaints

KVAN answers complaints by sending an engineer, at no charge, to try various fixes at residents' homes. Sometimes that means installing phone line filters or replacing electronic equipment, and sometimes it means enlisting the help of telephone company Qwest to address problems that originated with phone lines.

KVAN, 1550 AM, now broadcasts at 50,000 watts during the day and 12,500 watts at night, Ail said. Sister station KPAM, at 860 AM, also broadcasts from the same towers -- at 50,000 watts during the day and 5,000 watts at night.

The transmitter power increase, aimed at blanketing Clark County and Portland with a stronger, clearer radio signal, was delayed for years, partially by complex engineering problems. But there also were spikes in neighborhood complaints of telephone interference and other equipment problems when the radio station cranked up its power for testing.

Tower neighbors

That doesn't bode well now for the neighborhood around the towers. Resident Pat Costello of nearby 158th Court said she's noticed a definite worsening of her interference problem lately. She hadn't known that KVAN's long-sought power boost had just occurred.

"All I know is in the last five days, I've noticed I'm picking up more stuff," she said. "I was on hold with somebody, and while I was waiting I was listening to the radio, listening to a talk show, over the phone. This is like it was before we put in filters and stuff."

Until now, Costello said, she's been reasonably satisfied with the phone-line filters and other interference fighters provided by KVAN's house-calling engineer since she moved in last spring and promptly discovered the interference problem.

In the past few days, she said, she's found herself wandering from room to room with the phone to her ear, seeking out a spot in the house that doesn't have interference.

"I have a critically ill husband, and I'm doing lots of phoning," she said. "It's making it a lot harder right now."

The chairman of the Parkway East Neighborhood Association, Michael Detlef, said he hasn't noticed any increase in the interference he deals with at home -- but he's done a lot of his own interference-busting work on his house, he said.

He expects interference to be worse during the summer than during the

winter, when damp earth aids electrical grounding.

"The problem is, this is the time of year you're not going to notice the interference. This is the ideal time for those guys to do something like this," he said.

Modern problem

There seems to be plenty of blame to go around for the interference problems that have plagued the residential area surrounding the radio towers. Engineers have fingered everything from unshielded home wiring to aged and deteriorating telephone lines to cheap electronic equipment.

The FCC's position is that interference results when equipment and appliances aren't well shielded against radio signals. The government doesn't require broadcasters to fix interference problems.

But KVAN has been working its way down an endless list of complainants, some of them repeat callers, for years. Some problems have been easily fixed in a matter of minutes, Ail said, and others seem to drag on for years.

"We're going into every home to mitigate the problem, and every home is unique," he said.

Gus Potter, a co-chairwoman of the Parkway East Neighborhood Association, said her interference problems were solved after a KVAN engineer did some home rewiring. She hasn't noticed any resurgence in recent days, she said (via Mike Terry, DXLD)

** U S A. WMQM, Lakeland, TN noted from 5.26 PM EST on Jan. 5 with Salvation Army program, ID after program which was followed by another brokered program. Signal was good and strong till at 5.42 PM when the FL stations started to take over the channel- seems to be getting out well. Off to a good start this year! Happy Listening! GM Clearwater, FL (Greg Myers, NRC-AM via DXLD)

This is the first DX report of WMQM 'Memphis', subject of numerous items here in December, that I have seen! Times = 2226 and 2242 UT, before LSS which is now 2315 for January, half an hour later than Dec, whilst official sunrise is at 1315, a quarter-hour *later* than Dec ñ due to this oblate planet we inhabit. Should now try just before and after these times respectively when presumably on 50 kW ND day power. But still not heard here, not in the 2235-2315 UT period Jan 6. The only station consistently emerging from the QRM is KATZ, Gospel 1600, St. Louis, with much lower power; how come? (Glenn Hauser, DXLD)

** U S A. On 1439.7, KPUR is generally separable from the weak 1440 stuff with Westwood One's football playoff coverage and I caught a "Sports Radio AM 1440, The Score" ID at 1945 EST. I presume the SS NFL coverage on 1009.8 is KTNZ. 73 KAZ Barrington IL (Neil Kazaross, NRC-AM via DXLD) Both in Amarillo TX, The MW Engineering Capital of the World

** U S A. ALL THINGS CONSIDERATE -- HOW NPR MAKES TAVIS SMILEY SOUND LIKE LINDA WERTHEIMER. By Brian Montopoli

Last May, I had the chance to participate in an NPR fellowship for young journalists interested in public radio. There were eight of us in all, each of whom worked with a mentor to produce a story that would become part of a Web-based news magazine. In order to decide who would host the magazine, the mentors and NPR folks held auditions: One by one, we were required to stand up and read a few lines to the assembled crowd, who would then compare notes. We weren't allowed to watch the auditions. As we waited in the hallway, some of us tried to make small talk; others found a quiet corner where they could go over their lines. But we were all thinking about the same thing: The Voice, the NPR Voice, and how the hell we were going to pull it off. The Voice is tough to describe, but you know it when you hear it: It's serious, carefully modulated, genially authoritative. It rings with unspoken knowledge of good wine and The New York Times Book Review. We were terrified of it.

As it turned out, I couldn't quite manage The Voice --- the hosting gig went to someone else --- but I quickly realized that if I wanted anything to do with NPR, I'd need to figure it out pretty quick. NPR's ascendancy has been striking --- "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered," its drivetime shows, are the second and third most popular radio programs in the country, and the network's listenership continues to grow--up 18.5 percent in 2001 alone. A big part of the reason is the unparalleled quality of its news coverage. NPR's journalism is in-depth, accurate, fair, intelligent, and, not insignificantly, virtually commercial-free. In the sea of vituperative right-wing radio, NPR is an island of sanity, civility, and seriousness. And its reporters and personalities are truly talented: Their ability to explain complex issues in plain, sharp, value-neutral language may be unsurpassed in all of broadcasting.

But the network has also become something of a victim of its success. If you listen to a lot of NPR, you realize how similar it all sounds: no matter who is talking, or what they're talking about...
<http://www.washingtonmonthly.com/features/2001/0301.montopoli.html>
(Washington Monthly, Jan-Feb, via Daniel Say, swprograms via DXLD)

** U S A. NEW FCC COMMISSIONER AGAINST MEDIA CONSOLIDATION

By Pamela McClintock

WASHINGTON (Variety) - New Democratic FCC commissioner Jonathan Adelstein made it clear Monday that he's against further consolidation of the media business, questioning the wisdom of a Republican campaign to relax an unprecedented number of ownership rules.

In his first public speech, Adelstein wasted no time in challenging the agenda set by FCC chairman Michael Powell. He said the agency is charged with protecting a variety of voices on the airwaves and that ownership regulations are a key component.

"In practice, that means we must promote competition, diversity and localism so that the marketplace of ideas can flourish. A great thing about my new job is that I am passionate about this mission, and it is my sworn duty to carry it out," Adelstein said during his address at the Future of Music Policy Summit in Washington.

Adelstein's choice of words made it clear that Powell will have trouble achieving a consensus as he forges ahead with the agency's review of the regulations. Powell already had his work cut out for him in wooing Democratic commissioner Michael Copps, who is adamantly opposed to wholesale deregulation.

Both Adelstein and Copps are veteran Capitol Hill aides, meaning they have direct access to key solons -- and not just Democrats. At the music policy summit, Adelstein said massive consolidation of the radio business proves why ownership regulations are crucial. Unlike the TV biz, the radio industry was allowed to consolidate to its heart's delight after 1996.

In 1996, the two largest radio groups consisted of fewer than 65 stations. Now, Clear Channel -- the largest radio group -- owns 1,200 stations. The second largest group, Viacom's Infinity Broadcasting, owns 250 stations.

Adelstein said he disagrees with a FCC study suggesting that consolidation of the radio business hasn't hurt diversity of programming.

"Ownership consolidation in local markets by definition reduces competition and puts programming decisions into the hands of comparatively fewer, often national players," Adelstein said in his speech.

"Therefore, we must consider how consolidation affects the programming choices available to listeners and the level of local public affairs coverage," he said.

Adelstein said radio consolidation is the "canary" in the coal mine. He said the FCC better consider the health of that canary before further relaxing media ownership rules.

Other regulations up for grab include the following:

- = A rule prohibiting a TV broadcaster from reaching more than 35% of the national audience. This means that media giants including Viacom Inc. and News Corp. can't grow beyond a certain point in terms of their stables of TV stations.
- = A rule blocking a company from owning a TV station and newspaper in the same major market -- without a waiver, that is.
- = A duopoly rule barring one company from owing multiple media outlets in one community.

Last week, all sectors of the TV business made massive filings with the FCC laying out their respective arguments with respect to the rules (Reuters/Variety Jan 7 via DXLD)

** VENEZUELA [non]. RADIO TRICKSTERS DUPE CHAVEZ INTO CHAT WITH 'CASTRO' --- Carl Limbacher, Newsmax.com, January 6
<http://www.newsmax.com/showinsidecover.shtml?a=2003/1/6/180026>

Two Miami radio hosts today got embattled Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on a private line by pretending to be his idol: Cuban dictator Fidel Castro.

"We still can't believe it. He fell for it," snickered Enrique Santos, co-host of El Vacilon de la Manana (The Morning Joker), on WXDJ-FM 95.7, a Spanish-language salsa station.

The Miami Herald reported, "The joke was part of a segment called Fidel Te Llama or 'Fidel's Calling You,' in which Santos and his co-host, Joe Ferrero, call various people and play snippets of a controversial conversation between Castro and Mexican President Vicente Fox that Castro made public in 2001.

"Hearing Castro's distinctive rasp, the unsuspecting recipients of the call usually believe it is the comandante himself on the phone. After a few minutes of a disjointed conversation in which the same nonsensical sentence fragments are repeated, the victims get suspicious."

Here's how the comical commie "conversation" went:

Chavez: "Hello, Fidel!"

Recording of Castro: "Did you receive my letter?"

Chavez: "Of course I received it. I spoke with German."

Castro: "I'm all set to collaborate with you."

"As the nonsequiturs start, El Vacilon fakes trouble on the line to disguise the rejoinders that don't make sense," the Herald reported.

'Brother' Dictator

Chavez: "Yes, brother, how's it going?"

Castro: "I'll do what you're asking me to."

Chavez: "I don't understand."

Castro: "But I'm going to be harmed, I confess to you. Everything's set for Tuesday."

Chavez: "Everything's set for Tuesday? I don't understand."

'Terrorist!'

Santos reveals he's calling from Miami. He yells at Chavez: Terrorist! Animal! Murderer! &%\$! You're finishing off the Venezuelan people!"

End of conversation. Callers flooded the station's switchboard. Among them: the owner, Raul Alarcón Jr., whom Santos described as "not very happy." (via Ulis Fleming, DXLD)

DOS DISC JOCKEYS MIAMENSES GASTAN UNA BROMA PESADA A HUGO CHÍVEZ

CHRISTINA HOAG

<http://www.miami.com/mld/elnuevo/4885655.htm>

Fue una broma pesada que podía haber funcionado demasiado bien: Dos disc jockeys de Miami, conocidos por sus bromas pesadas, consiguieron hablar hoy a través de la radio con el presidente venezolano Hugo Chávez, diciendo que le llamaba Fidel Castro desde La Habana.

"Todavía no lo creemos", dijo Enrique Santos de El Vacilón de la Mañana, programa de la emisora El Zol 95.7. "Chávez se lo creyó". El dueño de la emisora repudió la broma y los jockeys esperaban esta tarde las posibles consecuencias.

La broma fue parte de un segmento radial llamado Fidel te llama, en el que Santos y su compañero Joe Ferrero suelen llamar a diversas personas y reproducir trozos de una conversación grabada en cinta en 2001 entre Castro y Vicente Fox, presidente de México.

Al escuchar la voz distintiva de Castro, los oyentes normalmente creen estar hablando con el mismísimo comandante. Despues de unos minutos de una conversación sin sentido, las víctimas empiezan a sospechar una broma pesada.

Inmediatamente después, Santos y Ferrero les notifican que han sido

objetos de una broma del programa radial.

Hoy lunes, Ch·vez, que considera a Castro un fuerte aliado y sin ning'n pudor piensa que Cuba es un rÈgimen modelo, fue la vÌctima de este programa.

Los irreverentes DJs habÌan empezado a llamar al Palacio de Miraflores en Caracas el viernes pasado. Hoy a las ocho de la maÒana, usando una voz femenina cubana que pretendÌa ser operadora en La Habana, consiguiÛ llegar a un asistente presidencial que se identificÛ como el Teniente Arcia.

La operadora insistiÛ en que el presidente Castro estaba en la lÌnea y querÌa hablar con Ch·vez. En la cinta, se podÌa oÌr la voz de Castro, haciendo creer al teniente que el dictador estaba esperando.

El oficial sugiriÛ que el presidente Ch·vez devolverÌa la llamada a Castro inmediatamente. Pero la operadora insistiÛ en que el lÌder cubano se encontraba en un lugar secreto y no recibÌa llamadas. El oficial entonces dio el nÌmero privado de Ch·vez a la emisora, que inmediatamente contactÛ al presidente:

"°Hola Fidel!" gritÛ Ch·vez.

"øRecibiste mi carta?" preguntÛ Castro.

"Claro que la recibÌ", respondiÛ Ch·vez. "HablÈ con Germ·n".

"Estoy listo para cooperar con ustedes", dijo Castro.

Al aparecer las incongruencias, El VacilÛn fingiÛ tener problemas en la lÌnea para disimular las respuestas sin sentido.

"SÌ, hermano. øCÛmo va todo?", preguntÛ Ch·vez.

"HarÈ lo que me pidas que haga", respondiÛ Castro.

"No entiendo", contestÛ Ch·vez, sorprendido.

"Pero te confieso que me van a hacer daÒo", dijo Castro.

Silencio en la lÌnea. Castro continuÛ: "Todo est· listo para el martes".

"øTodo est· listo para el martes...?", repitiÛ Ch·vez, obviamente confundido. "No entiendo".

En ese momento Santos interrumpiÛ el di·logo y anunciÛ que la transmisiÛn venÌa de Miami. Silencio absoluto por parte de Ch·vez. Santos entonces lanzÛ una larga diatriba contra el presidente:
"°Terrorista! °Animal! °Asesino!", adem·s de una buena selecciÛn de palabrotas. "°Est·s acabando con tu propio pueblo!" Santos entonces colgÛ el telÈfono.

La pareja irreverente de Miami quedÛ asombrada por su Èxito, lo que dio origen a una serie de epitetos en inglÈs a travÈs de las ondas.

La emisora se inundó con llamadas del público, inclusive del dueño de la estación, Raúl Alarcón Jr., al que Santos describió como "poco entusiasmado con la broma".

Ferrero se dio cuenta del alcance de esta situación durante su conversación con Chávez. "No sabíamos qué hacer", dijo. "Era una conversación entre dos presidentes".

No se consiguió un portavoz de Miraflores para que comentara sobre el asunto esta mañana.

No es la primera vez que Ferrero y Santos han causado revuelo a través de este programa. En abril del año pasado anunciaron un concierto con Julio y Enrique Iglesias en AmericanAirlines Arena, diciendo que las primeras personas presentes en la línea para adquirir boletos, entrarían gratis.

A causa de esta broma, el estadio se inundó de admiradores de los Iglesias y la emisora suspendió a la pareja tres días con sueldo.
(El Nuevo Herald Jan 6 via Henrik Klemetz, DXLD)

Copiada la dirección debo poderse encontrar la nota sin problema. Lo he comprobado nuevamente a las 1830 UT y no tengo ningún problema en escuchar por Windows Media Player el audio que tiene una duración de 6 minutos con 31 segundos. ----- Véase

<http://www.unionradio.com.ve/noticias/nacionales/Notanac2003010613839.htm>

para leer *y escuchar* la broma que gastaron al presidente venezolano Hugo Chávez cuando desde la emisora El Zol 95.7 en Miami lo llamaron por teléfono diciendo que era de parte del "Comandante Castro".

(Henrik Klemetz, Suecia, Conexión Digital via DXLD)

** VIETNAM. VOV has an interesting perspective, available thru its SW broadcasts and its very interesting website <http://www.vov.org.vn> Many of their programs are available via the website on demand (Fred Waterer, Programming Matters, Jan 0DXA Listening In via DXLD)

** VIETNAM. 4795.80, Son La Broadcasting Station. After receiving an envelope with just a schedule back in November, I re-sent my report, indicating that I had received their reply but since the envelope was opened that the possibility existed that the verification reply had gotten lost. Received a reply to my follow-up, indicated in the letter was that since the program details were for a Regional station at Son La that they could not verify my report. It seems that the Radio Voice of Vietnam now has taken a new policy change to verifying regional stations' reports. Son La is the only station which I need verified, to close my list. Reply in 44 days with another schedule (Edward

Kusalik, Alberta, Jan 6, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

UNIDENTIFIED. WWV usually dominates 5000 here in the evenings, but by 0738 UT Jan 7, it was skipping over, and WWVH could be heard at equal level, along with the mystery station whose pips are offset about 1/3 of a second. This may well be Cagigal, Venezuela, which seems to have a voice ID at the same time as WWV, and which has been known to be imprecise in the past. This offset is far too much for propagation delays to account for, and if a ``timesignal`` station can't do better than that, it has no business on the air (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. I was looking around on New Years Eve, to see what I might find. I found this on 6923.5, sideband, though I cannot remember if it was USB or LSB. It appears to be some kind of military communications network in a Latin American country. Maybe like our MARS? Anyway, on the run-up to midnight, they were playing salsa music, interrupted with greetings by various stations. At midnight (eastern time zone) the apparent net control gives a count-down and greetings and then other stations chime in with greetings. Judging by the time zone, this could be one of several countries, but I think the accent sounds Colombian, and one of the people is called Jairo, which is a rather common Colombian name. They do some talking back and forth, and then quit. There was what might have been an I.D., but it was lost in some local line noise, and I can't figure out what they say (Tim Hendel, AL, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

From Tim's tape, I believe I heard them mention the frequency as given above, and ``La Paz`` --- or was it ``la paz``? Nothing likely on or near this frequency in Klingenfuss 2002 (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

UNIDENTIFIED. I've suspected that the remark some while ago that Tunisia on 7190 is a spur of 7225, and not a 'real' frequency be unjustified. Arabic music was coming in well on 7190, with nothing on 7225, Jan 7 at 0657, but unfortunately it cut off with no ID a sesquiminute later. HFCC B-02 does in fact show Sfax on 7190 at 0400-0700 but not 7225; both are on the air at same time in evening, on different beams (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

RECEIVER NEWS
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RADIO RECEIVER AS A NATIONAL SECURITY RISK
JUDGE REJECTS SHOE-BOMBER'S BID FOR RADIO
Thu Jan 2, 4:48 PM ET

BOSTON (Reuters) - A federal judge on Thursday rejected Richard Reid's request to keep a radio in his jail cell after the U.S. government argued that giving such a device to the convicted shoe-bomber posed a national security risk.

In a courtroom hearing, Chief U.S. District Judge William Young sided with the government against Reid, a British citizen who last year publicly pledged allegiance to Osama bin Laden and admitted to being an enemy of the United States.

Prosecutors argued in a court filing last month that Reid, whom they called a "committed and dedicated international terrorist," should not be allowed to have a radio because it might prompt him to send messages to the outside world.

Giving Reid a radio would violate the special terms of his imprisonment that are designed to prevent him from "directing terrorist acts outside the prison that could harm national security," federal prosecutors said.

To support their claim that Reid might try to make contact with the outside world, they said prison officials in June discovered a metal object in Reid's cell that could have been used "as an antenna in a radio frequency receiver or transmitter."

They added, however, that FBI investigators had been unable to determine the intended use of the object, which comprised a wire wrapped around a small metal disk that had a circuit board glued to its bottom.

Reid, who is being held in Massachusetts jail, has extremely limited access to the outside world. The government allows him to receive Time magazine on a weekly basis, but only after it vets the publication for possible terror-related material.

Reid's lawyer, Owen Walker, did not return a telephone call seeking comment. Reid pleaded guilty in October to trying to bring down American Airlines Flight 63 on Dec. 22, 2001, as it flew to Miami from Paris.

Passengers and flight attendants overpowered Reid as he tried to ignite explosives in his athletic shoes. He was tied up with belts and headphone cords, and the plane landed in Boston under escort from fighter jets.

Reid is scheduled to be sentenced later this month. He faces between 60 years and life in prison. Prosecutors said the Briton will most

likely serve out his sentence at the Federal Correction Center in
Florence, Colorado (via news.yahoo.com via Sergei Sosedkin, DXLD) ####